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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/839,767

04/20/2001

Joachim Held

GR 00 P 1781

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7590

09/01/2004

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EXAMINER

LE, DINH THANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/839,767

Applicant(s)

HELD ET AL.

Examiner

DINH T. LE

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2816



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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FINAL REJECTION

Response to Applicant's Amendment

The rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Frech et al (US 6,043,724).

Frech et al discloses in Figures 1-2 a filter circuit comprising:

- a first line (18) and a second line (ground), for carrying one of DC voltages (VDD) and low-frequency voltages (noise);
- a radio-frequency (RF) filter device (1, 2) connected to said lines and the filter (2) being completely integrated in the integrated circuit (4) for preventing and restricting a propagation high-frequency interference signals through said lines, see lines 18-25 of column 4; wherein the filter device (1, 2) comprises a first capacitors (CTF, CMCM), resistors (R1, R2) and a second capacitor (VCO);

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- wherein the RF filter device (2) protects said component parts against the high-frequency interference signals transmitted through said lines and fed to said component parts (VCO) since the filter (2) is the low pass filter; and
- wherein the resistors (R2) and the capacitor (CVCO) are inherently dimensioned to perform the filtering function.

Wherein said RF filter device (2) is disposed in direct proximity and connected to said component parts (VCO) for suppressing the high-frequency interference signals, and said component parts generating further high-frequency interference signals also being suppressed by said RF filter, see Figure 2.

However, Frech et al does not disclose that the capacitor (CMCM) is not located on the chip (4). For example, the second filter (2) of Frech et al is completely located on the chip (4) and the capacitor (CMCM) is located off -chip (4) for easily replacing the capacitance value. Since the capacitor (CMCM) of Freh et al can be located on the chip (4) without alternating the performance of the filter, placing the capacitor (CMCM) on the chip for reducing size of the circuit is considered to be a matter of design expedient for an engineer depending upon a particular application in which the circuit of Frech et al is to be used. It would have been obvious to a person having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to place the capacitor (CMCM) on the chip (4) for the purpose of reducing the physical size of the circuit. Noted that the values of the resistors (R1-R2) and the capacitor (CMCM, CFT) of Freh et al obviously dimensioned so that the filter can provide the filtering function at a predetermined condition.

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Response to Applicant's Arguments

The applicant's argues that the filter of Frech is not completely located in an integrated circuit since the first capacitor is located off-chip and the second capacitor is located on the chip. The argument is not persuasive because the filter (2) of Frech comprising the resistor (R2) and the capacitor (CVCO) is located on a chip, see column 4, lines 18-25. Since the capacitor (CMCM) can be placed on the chip (4) without alternating the performance of the filter circuit, placing this capacitor on the chip (4) for reducing the physical size of the circuit would have been obvious and is considered to be a matter of a design expedient for an engineer.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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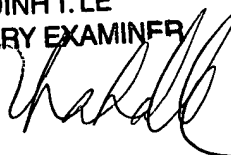
Any comments considered necessarily by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Dinh Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-1745. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached on (703) 308-4876. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DINH T. LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dinh T. Le', is written over the printed name and title.